



TV

# UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

UN In Action

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Release Date: April 2016

Programme: 1513

Length: 4'29"

Languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Russian

## A BIRD WATCHER'S PARADISE

### VIDEO

FOREST/BIRDS

FLYING AROUND (DRONE SHOT

KEOLADEO NATIONAL PARK

WATER BIRDS

SIBERIAN CRANE

MAP SIBERIA/CHINA

BIRDS FLYING IN PARK

IMAGES OF THE PARK

BIRDS

### AUDIO

MUSIC

### NARRATION

A secret paradise, a bird watcher's haven, and a world heritage site - // it's the Keoladeo National Park in Rajasthan, India. (12)

Famous for its water birds, the park is home to more than 300 species of the world's finest birds; // among them is the rare Siberian crane. (12)

Birds from regions in the north such as Siberia and China flock here to escape the cold winter months. (7)

Every year in May, the United Nations supports World Migratory Bird Day to highlight the need to protect birds and their

habitat and to raise awareness of their plight globally. (11)

### NARRATION

In fact, in 1972, UNESCO listed the Keoladeo park as a World Heritage Site. But in 2009 the park but in 20 almost lost its famed status. (12)

RIVER  
WATER  
WETLANDS – DRONE SHOTS

MIGRATORY BIRDS  
WETLANDS  
DRYLAND

That's because the Park started to dry up after a decision was made by the local authorities in 2004 to divert water to farmlands due to a severe dry spell triggered by little to no rainfall. (13)

DRIER AREAS  
OF THE PARK

The number of migratory birds declined drastically and what was once precious wetland changed into a vast patch of dry soil. (9)

FLOURISHING WETLANDS  
BIRDS FLYING AROUND  
FIGHTING EACH OTHER

Efforts by Rajasthan officials, the World Wildlife Fund, and the Wildlife Institute of India in the nearby town of Dehradun, joined hands to reverse the situation by introducing a drainage system that would pump water back into the park. (16)

Now, the Keoladeo National Park is thriving and the migratory birds have returned in large numbers. But this species is still threatened by climate change and human activity. (12)

SAHU: (In English) M

SAHU ON-CAM

*“Now I think the birds are losing the race at a faster speed because they are much more susceptible to the environment than animals and mammals. Particularly insecticides and pesticides, they’re taking a toll on birds.” (23)*

FARMING/USE OF FERTILIZERS

ECOSYSTEM

NARRATION

As changes between seasons become less defined, birds are often unsure when to take flight. These shifts continue to expose them to heat waves, droughts or cold snaps, which catch them by surprise. (13)

Migratory birds are the most vulnerable as they depend heavily on separate breeding grounds, wintering spots, and transit sites. Any change in their habitat could put them at risk. (12)

SAHU ON-CAM

SAHU: (In English) M

*“We need to really now focus on how to save our bird species from vanishing. //The Great Indian Buzzard, it is also under great threat. Only few numbers remain.” (13)*

BIRDS IN FLIGHT

FOREST/WATER

SUN GOING DOWN

NARRATION

Birds are an integral part of the ecosystem and protecting them increases species diversity, a critical element for the natural sustainability of all life forms. (13)

UN LOGO

This report was produced by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations. (4.5)

